REMARKS

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action of February 17, 2009. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 3-6, 12, 22-24, and consideration and allowance of claims 30-38 are requested.

The Office Action

Claims 3-6, 23, 24, and 29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Suzuki (US 5,671,450) modified by Zanen (US 5,532,777), further modified by Nishimura (US 5,631,697).

Claim 12 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Suzuki as modified by Zanen as further modified by Nishimura as further modified by Cox (US 5,383,013) and under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

Claim 22 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over Robinson.

The Claims Distinguish Patentably Over the References of Record

Claim 5 has been amended to emphasize that the adjusting means adjusts the angle of the set of mirrors and the distance between the camera and the mirrors based on the analysis of the stereo image data by the recognition means. As the Examiner acknowledges, neither Suzuki nor Zanen disclose the use of a recognition means. While Nishimura includes a recognition means, the recognition means only controls a zooming motor 26 and an autofocus motor 27 and an electrically powered pedestal 300. Nishimura does not make any suggestion of adjusting angles between mirrors or a distance between a camera and a set of mirrors.

It is submitted that none of the applied references individually or in combination place the reader in possession of a stereo camera system which adjusts the angle between mirrors and the distance between camera and the set of mirrors based on the stereo image data. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 5 and claims 3, 4, 6, 12, 30, and 31 dependent therefrom distinguish patentably and unobviously over the references of record.

Claim 22 calls for analyzing the stereo video images during operation of the video camera and for the focal length adjustment, angle adjustment, and baseline adjustment to be based on the analysis of the stereo video images. Robinson

at column 2, lines 51-66 calls for the distance to the object of interest to be measured by ultrasonic imaging or laser spot imaging rather than by analyzing the stereo video images. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 22 and claim 32 dependent therefrom are not anticipated by and distinguish patentably over the references of record.

Claim 33 calls for analyzing the stereo image output by the stereo camera system and adjusting the angle of mirrors based on the analysis of the stereo image. As the Examiner acknowledges, neither Suzuki nor Zanen disclose analyzing a stereo image and adjusting the mirror angle based on the stereo image analysis. Although Nishimura discloses a recognition means, Nishimura does not control or fairly suggest controlling the angles in response to the image analysis.

Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 33 and claims 34-38 dependent therefrom distinguish patentably and unobviously over the references of record.

35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 24 has been amended to address the 35 U.S.C. § 112 issues.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, it is submitted that claims 3-6, 12, 22-24, and claims 30-38 are not anticipated by and distinguish patentably over the references of record.

In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is requested to telephone Thomas Kocovsky at 216.363.9000.

Respectfully submitted,

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